

Minutes

City of Soledad Joint
City Council/Successor Agency
Special Meeting

March 18, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ledesma called the City Council/Successor Agency Meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Following Councilmembers/Agencymembers were present when the meeting was called to order:

*Due to COVID-19 Councilmember Lara Participated in the meeting by conference call.

Mayor/Chair	Fred Ledesma
Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair	Alejandro Chavez
*Councilmember/Agencymember	Marisela Lara
Councilmember/Agencymember	Anna Velazquez
Councilmember/Agencymember	Carla Strobridge Stewart

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILMEMBER WAS ABSENT

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- None

MEETING RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION

- 5:36 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

- 6:11 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

1. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(d)(1) to confer with its attorney regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which the City is a party: Claims of Marchase (4)
2. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(d)(1) to confer with its attorney regarding litigation which has been formally initiated: JVKS Harvest Solutions, LLC, et al. v. City of Soledad.
3. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(d)(2) to confer with its attorney regarding a significant exposure to litigation. (Two matters.)
4. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 to give instruction to the City's negotiator concerning the sale/exchange/lease of property located at 31500 San Vicente Road, City of Soledad (APN: 257-081-022). Instructions will include price and terms of payment.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 1, the council considered the involved claims and after deliberation, approved and provided direction to the City Manager. No other reportable action taken.
2. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 2, the council conferred with legal counsel, no other reportable action taken.
3. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 3, for each of the two items, the council conferred with legal counsel and the City Manager and provided direction. No other reportable action taken.
4. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 4, the council conferred with its real property negotiator and provided direction. No other reportable action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Patricia Aceves

PEACEBUILDERS PLEDGE

- Mayor Fred Ledesma

ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None

PRESENTATION/CEREMONY

1. Soledad Police Chief Damon Wasson was sworn in by City Manager Michael McHatten.
 - Chief Wasson thanked the Mayor Ledesma, City Councilmembers, City Manager and police department staff that were present for the great opportunity to serve the City of Soledad as Chief of Police.
2. Honoring of City of Soledad Police Officer Freddy Ambriz for the Monterey County Peace Officer Association Officer of the Year
 - Officer Ambriz thanked the City Councilmembers, City Manager Michael McHatten, Chief of Police Damon Wasson, the Soledad Police Department and the Monterey County Officer Association for the honor of receiving the Officer of the Year award.
3. Honoring of City of Soledad Police Department Police Records Supervisor Patricia Aceves for the Monterey County Peace Officer Association Support Services Employee of the Year.
 - Ms. Patricia Aceves thanked the City Councilmembers, City Manager Michael McHatten, Chief of Police Damon Wasson, the Soledad Police Department and the Monterey County Officer Association for the honor of receiving the award.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager McHatten reported that there has been a partial activation of the EOC. City Staff are currently having daily briefings based on concerns of not only staff, but also the community. The Police Department has been very proactive with notifying business. For the most part there has been compliance, but there are some that are not being compliant. The consensus of the South County Cities is to continue to educate and educate those that should not be operating. Chief's on the peninsula are taking the

position of ignoring. The DA is not going to take any cases of non-compliance. There are several documents that we have been receiving with information that we have been posting on the City website and on Facebook. Since this has started the South County Manager's have got together to see what could be done for the communities in South County. The Mayor has done a letter that has been posted regarding the rumor of water being shut off, which is not going to happen. We have provided information regarding food resources on social media and for seniors.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked if anyone has coordinated a time for seniors to go in at a separate time than other shoppers?

- City manager McHatten said that the City has reached out to Foods Co. with that request and the manager at Foods Co. said that they need to wait on direction from corporate orders.

Councilmember Velazquez asked if information was posted regarding the water being safe and the water not being shut off. She would like the City to post information and links from the EDD because people may start to be laid off. She would like to make sure that the food bank is still coming into Soledad. She would also like to make sure that the City is in touch with the Alliance on Aging and the Red Cross regarding blood drives that have been cancelled and maybe help provide locations needed.

- City Manager McHatten said that the City is looking at those things. The City will continue to move forward with providing more information with services and resources available.

Mayor Ledesma said that he is very disappointed with stores in our community with price gouging.

Councilmember Lara said that she wanted to remind everyone that there is lunch being provided for the students of Soledad by the schools in the community.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion:

Councilmember Velazquez has requested to pull item C-1 for separate discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez made a motion to adopt item C-2, resolution no. 5569. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Strobridge Stewart and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Chavez, Strobridge Stewart, Velazquez, Lara and Ledesma

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- C-2. Resolution No. 5569, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving a Consulting Services Agreement with EMC Planning Group, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$103,431 to perform Contract Planning Services for the Soberanes RV Park at Los Coches Adobe and Utility Extensions Project and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Said Agreement on Behalf of the City of Soledad.

Motion:

Councilmember Velazquez made motion to adopt Resolution No. 5568. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Strobridge Stewart and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Strobridge Stewart, Lara, Chavez and Ledesma
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

- C-1. Resolution No. 5568, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Accepting Bid results for the Soledad Parks Improvement Project at Chester Aaroe and Joe Ledesma Park and Directing Staff to Pursue Negotiations with Interested and Competent Contractors for such work.

Harris & Associates representative Leon Gomez presented the staff report.

Councilmember Velazquez received a request from Raquel White. The email also asked about why there were no bids received for the project. Councilmember Velazquez would also like to know why the City did not receive bids and what were the engineer estimates. She would like to know how the advertising was done. She would like to know why our website does not give the ability for contractors to go in and add their name to get bid documents.

Harris & Associates representative Leon Gomez addressed Councilmembers Velazquez concerns; he said regarding the Soledad parks improvement project, the City did see a request this afternoon from Ms. Raquel White. The request came in for proof of publication of the contract documents for the project as well as the estimate for probable cost. Harris & Associates provided her six items. The Opinion of probable construction cost for Chester Aaroe and Fred Ledesma parks; the publication verification was provided of the items that was circulated in the Salinas Californian and copies of that publication was also provided. The project was also put on the City of Soledad website and was available for download and in addition Harris & Associates put together a plan holders list of eleven contractors, landscapers and material providers. The notice inviting bids was sent to all eleven on that list. During the bid process there were several requests for information come through and Harris & Associates prepared addendum one and that information was also provided to all eleven. At this point Ms. White's requests and questions have been answered about the project. After the bid opening, he reached out to everyone on the plan holders list as to why there was no response from them. The reasons given to him by them as to why they did not respond was either the work scope was out of their general focus. A second reason given was the contract value was not as appealing as other projects going on in the area. The third reason is some of those on the plan holder's list are equipment and materials suppliers that could not do the entire scope of work and would need to team up with general contractors,

but because of reasons one and two, there is no one for them to work with. Several of the plan holders have now reached out and are interested, now that they know that the City did not receive any bid results. They are interested in entering negotiations which is the purpose of the staff report and resolution this evening.

I. BUSINESS

B-1. Fireworks Regulation and Control in Soledad.

City Manager McHatten said that CalFire could not attend the meeting and so if council would like, the item can be continued to the 04/01/2020 Regular meeting, which would still give enough time to have a first and second reading before the 4th of July holiday.

Council agreed to continue item B-1 to the Regular meeting of 04/01/2020.

B-2. Resolution No. 5570, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving and Accepting a 2018 Parks Bond Act Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement for Said Grant on Behalf of the City of Soledad in the amount of \$7,624,325.00 for the Metz/Orchard Park Development Project.

City Manager McHatten presented the staff report

Motion:

Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 5570. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Strobridge Stewart and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Strobridge Stewart, Lara, Chavez and Ledesma
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

B-3. Soledad Facility Update/Community Center Committee

City Manager McHatten presented the staff report. He asked that if the Council knows people that are interested please let the City Manager know. Superintendent Tim Vanoli has volunteered to represent the school district. Ivan Ibarra is looking from the youth council. The City had also reached out to Edan Valley. If you have any ideas for someone for the community members or a special needs representative, please email him the information.

Councilmember Velazquez would also like the invitation put on Facebook for the community.

- B-4. Resolution No. 5571, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Accepting the Results of a Request for Proposals for Cross Connection Control Survey of the City's Existing Water Distribution System and Directing Staff to Pursue Negotiation with Interested and Qualified Contractors for such work.

Harris & Associates representative Leon Gomez presented the staff report.

Motion:

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 5571. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Velazquez and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Chavez, Velazquez, Strobridge Stewart, Lara and Ledesma
 Noes: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

- B-5. Consider and Adopt Resolution No. 5572, Ratifying A "Proclamation of Existence of Local Emergency Due to the Covid-19 Virus.

City Attorney Mike Rodriquez presented the staff report.

Motion:

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 5572. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Lara and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Strobridge Stewart, Lara, Velazquez, Chavez and Ledesma
 Noes: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

COUNCILMEMBERS' ITEMS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked that council look into the eviction ordinance that the County of Monterey and the City of Salinas has issued.

Mayor Ledesma asked that the City continue with having two meetings per month.

- City Manager McHatten said City Council will continue to have two meetings per month and there will be an item on the next agenda regarding that item.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart asked if council would be able to receive the Measure Y Citizens Overview Committee recommendations.

- City Manager McHatten said once the Budget Review Committee can meet regarding the Measure Y Citizens Overview Committee recommendations, the recommendations will then be seen by the City Council.

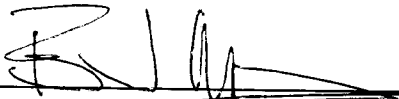
Councilmember Velazquez asked if Mayor Ledesma can release a statement to the community to help ease the fear during everything going on. She would like to see a PSA done similar to the City of Greenfield.

- City Manager McHatten informed Councilmember Velazquez that the City of Soledad has already done this type of communication to the public and will continue to make information available.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ledesma adjourned the Regular meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Minutes Approved: April 01, 2020



FRED J. LEDESMA, Mayor/Chairman



MICHAEL MCHATTEN, City Clerk/Agency Secretary